

Discovering Scotland

September 10 – 17, 2018

a tour arranged for

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Mid-South
Group Leader: Bonnie Blair



Iona Abbey

Some Tour Highlights:

Edinburgh & St Giles Cathedral
Cairngorm Mountain Railway
St. John's Kirk of Perth

Isle of Iona
Loch Lomond
St. Andrews

Great Glen and Inverness
Culloden Battlefield
Haggis Ceremony

Accommodations: Good 3 or 4 star hotels

Land Only Rates (per person sharing Twin/Double):

Group Size	<u>Earlybird Rate</u> <i>Deposit part 1 by Sept 24, 2017</i>	<u>Regular Rate</u> <i>Deposit received after Sept 24, 2017</i>	<i>Single supplement - \$680, subject to availability (to be paid at same time as deposit)</i>
24	3195	3395	<i>Flights are not included</i>
32	2995	3195	<i>Price subject to exchange rate fluctuations and changes in rate of government tax</i>
40	2775	2975	

Your Tour Price Includes:

- Travel by luxury coach
- Ferries and tolls
- Professional guides
- Porterage
- VAT(sales tax) at 20%
- Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Entertainment as per itinerary
- Services of our tour manager
- Tipping for waitstaff etc
- 7 Hotel nights
- 7 Breakfasts
- 1 Lunch
- Welcome dinner
- 3 Regular Dinners
- Celebration Dinner

Not included:

Flights to/from Scotland Laundry Beverages Personal items Driver tip Airport transfers

Registration and Payment Details: To reserve your place –

At the Earlybird rate

- *Earlybird Part 1 deposit of \$175 by Sept 24, 2017*
- *Earlybird Part 2 deposit of \$700 by Dec 3, 2017 (when single supplements must also be paid in full)*
- *Please note: Earlybird booking provides a discount of \$200. It also allows the deposit to be made in 2 payments. The total Earlybird deposit is \$875.*

At the Regular rate

- *Deposit of \$1075 paid at date of booking (when single supplements must also be paid in full)*

Then balances to be paid by everyone

- *One half of balance by March 4, 2018*
- *Remaining balance by June 3, 2018*

Anyone registering for the tour after March 4, 2018 – payment in full required at time of booking - subject to additional charge and availability

Payment by check to: *Presbyterian Women*

Mail to: *Melissa Still, 8634 Riverchase Drive, Germantown, TN 38139*

This group will be confirmed if we receive Earlybird Part 1 deposits for at least 24 participants no later than September 24, 2017. Reservations made on first come, first served basis.

Insurance:

We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage.

Cancellation:

Time prior to departure:

Cancellation Fees:

Up to 91 days.....	deposit
75 - 90 days.....	50% of tour cost
61 – 74 days.....	60% of tour cost
15 - 60 days.....	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days.....	100% of tour cost

Times of Worship: This is a custom tour for a church group. We aim to include –

- A service of welcome
- Morning prayers on the coach
- Evening devotions before dinner on most days
- Sunday service with a Church of Scotland congregation

Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:

The tour will begin in Edinburgh on September 10, 2018. Travel arrangements prior to that are at your own discretion. Flights into Edinburgh from the US mostly arrive in the morning. There is no program on Day 1 until early evening when we meet for a welcome dinner. You may, of course, arrive a day or two early or choose to stay on after the tour. We may be able to offer additional nights at the tour hotels at your request.

How Active is the Tour?

We don't take long country hikes. Most hotels we use have elevators and portorage for luggage. But, among other things, you do need to be able to –

- Manage coach steps several times a day
- Stand or walk with our guides, inside and outdoors, sometimes in inclement weather
- Occasionally manage your own luggage
- Climb stairs in some hotels
- Walk city streets (Edinburgh has some steep hills and steps)

Contact Us:

Rev. Jim Wallace Tel – from USA - 011 44 757 6071743 Email – office@scotustours.com

Scotus Tours Ltd., 21 Durley Dene Crescent, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire, PH2 9RD, Scotland, UK

Our Itinerary

Day 1 – Monday, September 10 - Welcome to Scotland! Group members will make their own flight arrangements. Arrive Edinburgh this morning. Spend the day as you wish in Edinburgh and check in to your hotel. Meet your tour manager for an early evening welcome reception and dinner.

Meals included – dinner *Overnight: Edinburgh City Center*

Day 2: Tuesday, September 11 – Let’s go! We have a short time for orientation to the beautiful city of Edinburgh before we leave. Then we drive to Glasgow, taking in Glasgow Cathedral and pausing for a service of welcome – a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition. We head out of the city before the evening traffic, taking a scenic drive by Loch Lomond – you will quickly see why they call it the “Bonnie, bonnie banks”. And we arrive at our hotel in Oban in time for dinner.

Meals included – breakfast, dinner *Overnight: Oban*

Day 3: Wednesday, September 12 – Iona...a *Thin Place* We catch the morning ferry to the Isle of Mull. We journey across Mull to Fionnphort where we make a further short ferry ride to Iona – a very special island where, in the year 563, St. Columba founded a monastery and brought Christianity to Scotland. In the language of Celtic spirituality Iona is described as a “thin place” – where the separation of heaven and earth seems minimal. We’ll visit the Abbey and may be able to share in worship with members of the Iona Community. We return to Oban for the night.

Meals included – breakfast, lunch *Overnight – Oban*

Day 4: Thursday, September 13 – The Great Glen and Inverness Our journey takes us north to Glen Coe – a beautiful place which witnessed an infamous event in Scotland’s history. Near Fort William we see “Neptune’s Staircase”, an ingenious series of locks on the Caledonian Canal. A distillery visit is also on our program. Then on through the Great Glen and by Loch Ness where we watch out for monstrous events. We arrive at our hotel in the center of Inverness – “the Capital of the Highlands”. Stroll out along the riverbank this evening and find a nice place for dinner.

Meals included – breakfast *Overnight: Inverness*

Day 5: Friday, September 14 – I will lift mine eyes unto the hills... Our day begins with a visit to the Culloden Battlefield Center where we can learn about Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites. Driving south we ride the Cairngorm Mountain Railway – an ingenious funicular which takes us all the way to the top. We can enjoy lunch there amid spectacular views. Our destination is Perth - "The Fair City". We have a guided tour in St John’s Kirk of Perth – it was here that John Knox preached the sermon which set light to the Reformation in Scotland. Dinner this evening begins with a haggis ceremony, complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Rabbin Burns. And you can taste a little haggis if you wish.

Meals included – breakfast, dinner *Overnight: Perth*

Day 6: Saturday, September 15 – The “Auld Grey Toon” (St Andrews) We turn to the east coast and the charming little town of St. Andrews where one of our excellent professional guides will lead a walking tour. St Andrews boasts Scotland’s oldest university where many of the Kirk’s ministers have been educated. It is a significant site for the history of the Reformation. We see the castle and cathedral ruins. There will also be free time to browse in the stores or maybe walk along the West Sands. Golfers can look longingly at the Old Course. We return to Perth via the Tay Bridge and city of Dundee.

Meals included – breakfast, dinner *Overnight – Perth*

Day 7: Sunday, September 16 - Edinburgh – “The Athens of the North” From the cobbled streets of its Old Town to the Georgian grandeur of the New Town, Edinburgh is a truly beautiful city full of history and full of life. We arrive in time for morning worship, perhaps in St. Giles’ Cathedral, sometimes called the “mother church of Presbyterianism”. And we’ll do some further touring in Scotland’s capital. Our guide will walk us among the medieval streets and will also explain much about modern living in this vibrant city. Tonight we will share worship together and close with a celebration dinner.

Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner *Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 8: Monday, September 17 - Departures after breakfast. Haste ye back! *Meals included – breakfast*

The above program is a fair representation of the proposed tour but is subject to change at the discretion of Scotus Tours.

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Dear Fellow Traveler,

People are always telling me they would love to visit Scotland. Whether it is the majestic scenery of the highlands which attracts them; or our castles, churches and cities steeped in history; or maybe our proud tradition of hospitality – all these and more combine to make a trip to Scotland an unforgettable experience.

For people of faith Scotland also has much to offer. Christianity came to these shores no later than the sixth century. And the impact of the Reformation has extended far around the world.

I'm a native Scot and a minister of the Church of Scotland who has also served as a pastor in the PC(USA). So I am delighted to be working with Presbyterian Women to offer this tour. I want you to enjoy an outstanding trip; to see the real Scotland; to discover, in particular, our sacred heritage. And I run Scotus Tours to make that possible.

I hope you can join our tour. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything else you need to ask.

Sincerely,

Jim Wallace



Jim Wallace on tour at Loch Lomond



Bonnie Blair

Come to Scotland...an Invitation...

Venture with me on this custom guided tour to explore castles and medieval cities; to see the beauty of the glens and lochs of the countryside.

Join this opportunity to be spiritually inspired as we explore the historical sites and events of Christianity, the Reformation, and the founding roots of Presbyterianism.

Would love having you with me on this special trip to a lovely country – Scotland.

Bonnie Blair

